



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

[Signature]

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,716	12/02/2003	Yu-Chien Hsiao	BHT-3249-6	2205
7590	07/05/2005			EXAMINER NASRI, JAVAID H
TROXELL LAW OFFICE PLLC SUITE 1404 5205 LEESBURG PIKE FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041			ART UNIT 2839	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/724,716	HSIAO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Javaid Nasri	2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 11-14 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 5-10 and 15-19 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12/2/03, 5/2/05 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Abstract

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because:

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Note: In the instant case form and legal phraseology "said" is used.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 11, 12 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Comstock et al (5,211,572).

Comstock et al discloses, **for claim 1**, a dielectric housing (18); a plurality of terminals received in the housing; a latch (24) extending from the housing and comprising a locked portion (28) for locking with a complementary connector and a pressing portion (26) for being exerted on by an external force, the pressing portion and the dielectric housing defining a space there between (see abstract and figure 2); and a retaining device (22) comprising a main portion insertable in a first direction into the space beneath the pressing portion to prevent latching of the latch, the retaining device being removable upon movement of the retaining device in a second direction opposite to the first direction, **for claim 2**, the locked portion of the latch is a hook (18) adapted for being received in a recess of the complementary connector, **for claims 11 and 20**, the latch comprises a support (30) integrally extending from the housing, and the locked portion and the pressing portion are respectively located at opposite sides of the support (see figure 1), **for claim 12**, a first electrical connector comprising a first dielectric housing (18); a plurality of first terminals received in the first dielectric housing, a latch (28) extending from the first housing and comprising a hook (28) portion for locking with a complementary connector and a pressing portion (26) for being exerted on by an external force, the pressing portion and the first dielectric housing defining a space there between (see abstract); and a retaining device (22) comprising a main portion insertable in a first direction into the space beneath the pressing portion to prevent latching of the latch, the retaining device being removable upon movement of the retaining device in a second direction opposite to the first direction; and a second electrical connector mating with the first electrical connector, comprising a second dielectric housing defining a

recess for receiving the hook portion of the latch; and a plurality of second terminals received in the second dielectric housing (see abstract).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3, 4, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comstock et al.

Comstock et al discloses all the limitations of claims 1 and 12, as shown above,

However, Comstock et al does not disclose, the retaining device as a tie with thickness equal to the height of the space. In the specification paragraph [0021], a similar tie is well known in the art, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Comstock et al. to use similar tie instead of the locking key (22), for economical purpose.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 5/2/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's comment:

- a) The locking key (22) of Comstock et al is removed in a way different from that of the retaining device of the present invention and Comstock et al do not teach a retaining device comprising a main portion insertable in a first direction into the space beneath the pressing portion to prevent latching of the latch, the retaining device being removable upon movement of the retaining device in a second direction opposite the first direction. It should be noted that Comstock et al do teach a retaining device comprising a main portion insertable in a first direction (arrow D, see figure 1) into the space beneath the pressing portion to prevent latching of the latch, the retaining device being removable upon movement of the retaining device in a second direction (opposite arrow D), opposite the first direction. See note below.

Note: USPTO interprets claims, giving claims their “broadest reasonable interpretation.”

(See, e.g., In re Morris, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054-55 (Fed. Cir. 1997)).

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

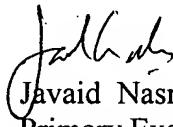
will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Javaid Nasri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

JN

Jhn
June 30, 2005